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Abstract

Disclosed is a picture signal processing method for outputting a color picture. In encoding input picture data YCbCr into picture data for printing in a YCC picture formulating unit (2), chromaticity Cb, Cr are processed non-linear conversion processing by a non-linear function $f(c)$, with the luminance Y remaining unaffected, to generate picture data for printing YCb'Cr'. In a cmyk converter 3, the picture data for printing YCb'Cr', generated by the YCC picture formulating unit (2), are processed non-linear conversion processing by an inverse function $f'(c)$ of the non-linear function $f(c)$ to perform color space conversion processing matched to the color space of an output device. This converts the picture data for printing YCb'Cr' into picture data for output printing cmyk to improve color reproducing quality by controlling the encoding density locally in a wide color gamut.